

2013 Spring Turkey

Hunting Regulations and Information
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



Table of Contents

Seasons	3
Hunter-Education Requirement	3
How Turkey Season is Set	3
General Information	4
Feral Hogs.....	4
Permit Information	5
Sunrise Table	5
Resident Landowner Permits.....	6
Apprentice Hunter Authorization	6
Turkey Population Status	7
Turkey Hunting Regulations on Department Areas.....	8
Managed Hunts	16
How to Tell a Gobbler from a Hen	18
Using e-Permits	19
Tagging and Checking.....	20
How to use Telecheck.....	21
Wildlife Code Turkey Hunting Regulations.....	22
Hunting Incidents and Safety	22



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Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, 573-751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

What's New for 2013

- ▶ Hunters are no longer required to affix "Be Safe" stickers to their shotguns.
- ▶ There are several changes to conservation area regulations and managed turkey hunts. See pages 8–17.

NOTE: According to rule 3 CSR 10-5.216 of the *Wildlife Code*, if you have been convicted of multiple or major violations of the *Wildlife Code* in the past five years, the Conservation Commission may consider suspending or revoking your hunting, trapping, and/or fishing privileges regardless of any previous court action. The point system the Commission uses to assess *Wildlife Code* violations is explained at **mdc.mo.gov/node/16861**.

MCHF Helps You Invest in Your Love of Hunting

Since 1997, thanks to donations from hunters like you, the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation has supported dozens of women and youth hunting events, disabled-hunter blinds, wildlife habitat improvements and Archery in the Schools programs. **With your help, we can do even more.** Consider making a planned gift or other donation, or purchasing a Conservation Heritage License Plate today. You may direct your contributions to the area of conservation you care most about, including shooting ranges and wildlife habitat improvements. For more information, visit www.mochf.org or call 1-800-227-1488.



Investing In Your Conservation Legacy
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Turkey Seasons

Youth Spring Turkey Hunting Season

Who May Participate:

- ▶ Youth hunters who are age 6–15 on opening day

Season Dates: April 6–7, 2013

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset Central Daylight Time

Valid Permits:

- ▶ *Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit*
- ▶ *Resident Landowner Spring Turkey Hunting Permit*
- ▶ *Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit*

Note: Landowner permits are valid only on the land for which they are issued. See Page 6 for qualifications.

Youth Season Limit: One male turkey or turkey with visible beard.

Note: Youths who take a turkey during the youth season may not harvest a second bird until April 22. This is because the bird taken during the youth season counts as the first bird for the first week of the regular season.

Regular Spring Turkey Hunting Season

Season Dates: April 15–May 5, 2013

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Valid Permits:

- ▶ *Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit*
- ▶ *Resident Landowner Spring Turkey Hunting Permit*
- ▶ *Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit*

Season Limit: Two male turkeys or turkeys with a visible beard may be taken during the season, with the following restrictions:

- ▶ You may take only one turkey during the first week from April 15–21.
- ▶ If you do not take one during the first week, then you may take two during the second or third week from April 22–May 5, but you may not take them both on the same day.

Note: If you hunt during a managed hunt, season limits still apply. See pages 16–17.

Hunter-Education Requirement

All hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1967, and hunting with a Resident or Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit must complete an approved hunter-education program and display their card before they can purchase a firearms turkey hunting permit unless:

- ▶ They first purchase an Apprentice Hunter Authorization. See Page 6 for requirements.
- ▶ They are ages 6–15 and will be hunting with a qualified mentor. See Page 5.
- ▶ They failed to pass the hunter-education certification tests due to a developmental disability. See rule 3 CSR 10-5.205 of the *Wildlife Code*.

Hunters do not need to show their hunter-education card if certification can be verified electronically. Most hunters who use the e-Permits System will have their certification verified online. If this is not possible, some hunters will need to contact the Department to provide proof of hunter-education certification. Once in the database, hunters won't have to submit this information again.

A person must be at least 11 years old to receive hunter-education certification. Hunters using a Resident Landowner Spring Turkey Hunting Permit are exempt from the hunter-education requirement unless they were born on or after Jan. 1, 1967, and are mentoring a firearms hunter who is not hunter-education certified.

For additional information or to find a hunter-education class in your area, visit mdc.mo.gov/node/3095.

How Turkey Season Opening Dates are Set

The current formula for setting spring turkey season strikes a balance between the biology of turkey reproduction and hunters' desires for an earlier season, especially in southern Missouri. As a result, the season begins on the third Monday in April, which during most years produces an earlier season than what was set using the previous formula.

The youth season opens nine days before the regular season, except when that would make it fall over the Easter weekend. In those cases, the season begins the weekend before Easter.

Telecheck your turkey by 10 p.m. on the day taken.



OPERATION GAME THIEF

Remain Anonymous Reward Possible

Dial toll free 1-800-392-1111

General Information

Wild turkeys may be pursued, taken, killed, possessed, or transported only as outlined in this booklet. For complete hunting regulations, refer to the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.

Methods: The following are allowed during the spring turkey hunting seasons:

- ▶ A shotgun with shot not larger than No. 4
- ▶ A longbow, recurve bow, or compound bow. Hand-held string-releasing devices, illuminated sights, scopes, and quickpoint sights are allowed.

The following methods are prohibited:

- ▶ Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells in magazine and chamber combined
- ▶ Shot larger than No. 4 (in use or in possession)
- ▶ A bow fastened to a stock or other device that maintains the bow in a drawn position
- ▶ Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- ▶ Thermal imagery equipment or night vision equipment (in use or in possession)
- ▶ Recorded calls (in use or in possession)
- ▶ Use of dogs or live decoys
- ▶ Use of bait, which includes grain or other feed placed or scattered so as to attract turkeys. An area is considered baited for 10 days after complete removal of the bait. A hunter can be in violation if they take or attempt to take a turkey by aid of bait where the hunter knows or reasonably should know the area is or was baited. It is illegal to place bait in a way that causes others to be in violation of the baiting rule.

Voiding the Permit: Hunters who harvest a turkey must void their permit immediately by notching the month and day of harvest. See Page 20.

Tagging and Checking: All turkeys must be tagged immediately after harvest and checked by 10 p.m. on the day taken using the Telecheck system. See pages 20–21.

Note:

- ▶ Any hunter who kills or injures a turkey must make a reasonable effort to retrieve and include it in his or her season limit, but this does not authorize trespass.
- ▶ It is a violation to wantonly leave, abandon, or waste commonly edible portions of game.
- ▶ Anyone using a turkey call to assist another hunter must be properly licensed with either a filled or unfilled spring turkey hunting permit.



Feral Hogs

Feral hogs destroy wildlife habitat, compete with native wildlife for food, and spread diseases to people, pets, and livestock. They are a menace that must be eradicated.

A feral hog is defined as any hog, including Russian and European wild boar, that is not conspicuously identified by ear tags or other identification and is roaming freely on public or private land without the landowner's permission.

It is illegal to release feral hogs on public land or on private land that is not fenced to contain them. If you see someone releasing hogs, report them immediately to your local conservation agent or call Operation Game Thief toll free at 1-800-392-1111.

The Conservation Department discourages anyone from hunting specifically for feral hogs because hunters' activities interfere with the Department's efforts to eradicate these pests. However, if you are afield for other game and encounter a feral hog, *shoot it on sight!* If you kill a feral hog on public land or on private land where you have permission to hunt, you are not liable if someone later claims to own the animal.

During the youth and spring turkey hunting seasons, to kill feral hogs you must:

- ▶ Possess a valid, unfilled turkey hunting permit, and
- ▶ Use only methods allowed for taking turkeys.

Note: Resident landowners on land they own and lessees on land they reside on may use any method to take feral hogs at any time without any permit.

If you see a feral hog, notify any of the following:

- ▶ Nearest Conservation Department regional office (see pages 8–15)
- ▶ State veterinarian's office at 573-751-3377
- ▶ USDA Wildlife Services at 573-449-3033.

With your help, we can eliminate these dangerous, destructive pests from Missouri.

Spring Turkey Permits

Valid Permits

Check Page 3 to see which permit you need.

Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit

Age 16 and older \$17
Age 6–15.....\$8.50

Resident Landowner

Spring Turkey Hunting Permit no cost; see Page 6

Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit

Age 16 and older \$190
Age 6–15.....\$8.50

Note: Youth age 6–15 are not required to be hunter-education certified. If the youth is hunter-education certified and hunting on a resident or nonresident spring turkey permit, he or she may hunt alone. However, if the youth is not hunter-education certified, he or she must be in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult who has a valid hunter-education certificate card or was born before Jan. 1, 1967. The adult, however, may not hunt turkeys during the youth spring turkey season.

- ▶ “Immediate presence” means close enough for normal conversation, without shouting.
- ▶ “Properly licensed” means a valid filled or unfilled spring turkey hunting permit.
- ▶ “Adult” means someone age 18 or older.

Regardless of age, the youth must be capable of holding, aiming, and shooting the firearm by him or herself.

Resident landowners or lessees born after Jan. 1, 1967, accompanying youths on the landowner’s property or property on which the lessee is residing must be hunter-education certified.

Who may purchase resident permits?

- ▶ Any person who does not claim resident privileges in another state or country, and whose actual residence and legal permanent home address are both in Missouri, and have been for at least 30 days before applying for the permit. Owning real estate or attending a Missouri school does not in itself make you a legal resident.
- ▶ Missouri residents employed by the United States in the District of Columbia or serving in the U.S. armed forces. (Immediate family members who reside with them also may purchase resident permits.)
- ▶ All members of the U.S. armed forces residing in Missouri on permanent change-of-station status and immediate family members residing with them.
- ▶ Any honorably discharged military veteran having a service-related disability of 60 percent or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service; must carry certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs while hunting or purchasing permits.

SUNRISE AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO. Central Daylight Time

SUNRISE		SUNSET	SUNRISE	
DAY	A.M.	P.M.	DAY	A.M.
APRIL				
6	6:46	7:37	25	6:19
7	6:44	7:38	26	6:17
15	6:32		27	6:16
16	6:31		28	6:15
17	6:29		29	6:14
18	6:28		30	6:12
19	6:27		MAY	
20	6:25		1	6:11
21	6:24		2	6:10
22	6:23		3	6:09
23	6:21		4	6:08
24	6:20		5	6:07

This table is for Jefferson City and points on the same longitude north or south. For locations east, subtract one minute from the table for each 13 1/2 miles (airline) of distance. For locations west, add one minute for each 13 1/2 miles. Or, for the sunrise and sunset times anywhere in the United States, see the U.S. Naval Observatory website: www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astronomical-applications.

- ▶ Any member of the U.S. military currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit, or a military medical center; must carry orders showing assignment to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit, or admissions verification to a military medical center while hunting or purchasing permits.
- ▶ Nonresidents who are registered students attending a public or private secondary, post secondary, or vocational school in Missouri and who live in Missouri while attending school; must carry evidence of a Missouri residence and student status while hunting. **Note:** Nonresident students who qualify for resident permits must purchase them at Conservation Department offices.
- ▶ Immigrants who possess an I-551 Resident Alien Card and who do not claim resident privileges in another state or country, and whose actual residence and legal permanent home address are both in Missouri, and have been for at least 30 days before purchasing a permit.

Purchasing Permits

You may purchase turkey hunting permits using any of the methods below.

- ▶ Over the counter from any permit vendor. Buy early to avoid long lines. No surcharges will be assessed.
- ▶ By telephone at 800-392-4115. Use your credit card, and pay a \$2 surcharge. Allow 10 days for delivery.
- ▶ Online anytime using the e-Permits System at mdc.mo.gov/epermits. Use your credit card, and pay a \$1 surcharge. Print your permit at home and have it in hand immediately.

Note: No-cost resident landowner permits also are available. See Page 6 for details.

Resident Landowner Permits

No-Cost Resident Landowner Permits

All turkey hunters, including landowners and lessees, must have a valid turkey hunting permit. You qualify for no-cost spring turkey hunting permits if you are a Missouri resident age 6 or older, who:

- ▶ Owns at least 5 acres, or
- ▶ Leases and lives on at least 5 acres of land, or
- ▶ Lives in the home with a qualifying landowner or lessee.

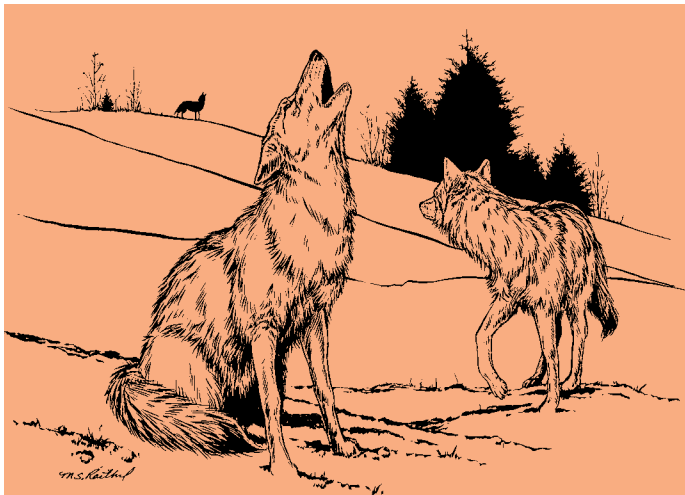
You may obtain your no-cost resident landowner permits using any of the methods below.

- ▶ Over the counter from any permit vendor. Go early to avoid long lines. No surcharges will be assessed.
- ▶ By telephone at 800-392-4115. Use your credit card, and pay a \$2 surcharge. Allow 10 days for delivery.
- ▶ Online anytime using the e-Permits System at **mdc.mo.gov/epermits**. Use your credit card, and pay a \$1 surcharge. Print your permit at home and have it in hand immediately.

Please have on hand the following information:

- ▶ Your Conservation I.D. number, Heritage Card number, Social Security number, or driver's license number
- ▶ The county where your land is located
- ▶ The number of acres you own or lease and reside on

Note: All landowner hunting permits are valid *only* on the land for which they are issued. You must purchase permits to hunt on land you do not own or lease and reside on.



Coyotes may not be chased, pursued or taken during daylight hours from April 1–14. They may not be hunted at all during the regular turkey season from April 15 through May 5.

Definitions for Landowner Permits

Resident landowner: Any Missouri resident who owns at least 5 continuous acres, or members of his or her immediate household. In the case of corporate ownership, only registered officers of the corporation and members of his or her immediate household can qualify to receive no-cost permits, and they are not required to reside on the land. People who own stock in a corporation (shareholders) do not qualify under this definition.

Lessee: Any Missouri resident who resides on and leases at least 5 continuous acres owned by others, or members of his or her immediate household.

Immediate household member: Someone, related or unrelated, who has lived in the home with a qualifying landowner or lessee for at least the last 30 days. Family members who live elsewhere do not qualify.

Note: Hunters must be at least 6 years old to obtain landowner permits.

Apprentice Hunter Authorization

To help introduce adults to hunting, the Conservation Department allows hunters age 16 and older who are not hunter-education certified to hunt with firearms, as long as they:

- ▶ First purchase the Apprentice Hunter Authorization for \$10;
- ▶ Then purchase a firearms hunting permit for the season they want to hunt; for example, a Spring Turkey Hunting Permit; and
- ▶ Hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed hunter 18 years old or older who is hunter-education certified or was born before Jan. 1, 1967. The mentor must have a filled or unfilled permit for the prescribed season. "Immediate presence" means close enough for normal conversation, without shouting.

Note: The Apprentice Hunter Authorization can be purchased twice and it allows the holder to obtain firearms permits throughout the permit year. After the second year, the apprentice hunter will be required to become hunter-education certified if he or she wants to continue purchasing firearms permits.

Missouri is a leader in hunter recruitment, and the Apprentice Hunter Authorization is just one more tool to help you share your hunting knowledge and tradition with your friends and family. Encourage your apprentices to attend a hunter-education class or take the course online at **mdc.mo.gov/17844**.

Two Years of Improved Production is Good News for Turkey Hunters

Improved turkey production in 2011 was a welcomed sight after the poor hatches that plagued Missouri from 2007–2010. The good hatch in 2011, along with an increased number of jakes (one-year-old male turkeys) in 2012, will result in more 2-year-old gobblers in 2013. Because 2-year-old gobblers are generally more vocal and willing to come to hunters' calls, this is good news for turkey hunters looking forward to this year's spring season.

Turkey production in 2012 was improved as well, coming in 42 percent above the previous 5-year average and 21 percent above the 10-year average. Missouri's turkey population hasn't experienced two consecutive years of production comparable to 2011 and 2012 in more than a decade. These hatches should bolster turkey numbers throughout much of Missouri. Because hatch success drives turkey abundance, continued improvements in production should increase turkey numbers in the Show-Me State.

Transitional Times

Missouri's turkey population has undergone a transition during the past several decades. In the 1970s and 80s, when the recently-restored population was expanding rapidly, people often reported seeing flocks of turkeys that numbered well into the hundreds. During that time, production was extremely high as turkeys took advantage of vacant, highly-suitable habitat.

But, a basic ecological principle eventually caught up with Missouri's turkeys. As wildlife populations grow, factors that limit their size exert ever-greater influence. Habitats become crowded, predators find easy pickings, and disease spreads more quickly. By increasing mortality, decreasing production, or doing both, each limiting factor puts the brakes on an expanding population. Missouri's wild turkeys are no exception. Although the hatches of 2011 and 2012 should increase turkey



NOOPADOL PAOTHONG

numbers, and there's potential for continued growth, it's not likely that turkey numbers will increase to the peak populations observed following restoration. Wild turkey populations are dynamic, and turkey reproductive success is rarely stable. In the future, ebbing and flowing of turkey numbers can be expected, as this is the nature of the species.

A Comprehensive Approach to Wild Turkey Management

The Conservation Department takes a comprehensive approach to managing the state's turkey population. In addition to analyzing harvest data, brood surveys and wildlife observation surveys are conducted each year to monitor trends in turkey production and abundance. Additionally, the Conservation Department surveys thousands of hunters annually to obtain information about hunter opinions, success, and satisfaction. The Department's approach

to turkey management is guided by its Wild Turkey Harvest Management Plan. Along with management objectives, such as ensuring the long-term well-being of the turkey population and allowing harvest within sustainable limits, the plan outlines criteria that are evaluated each year to establish harvest regulations.

The Department sets spring turkey season to begin after a considerable proportion of breeding has occurred. Due to this timing and the fact that male turkeys represent 99 percent of the harvest, spring hunting does not limit turkey population growth. Although a portion of the fall harvest consists of female turkeys, current fall harvest levels are within acceptable limits. In 2012, fall firearms hunters harvested about 8,500 turkeys, which is considerably lower than the harvest of nearly 45,000 turkeys during the spring season. Each year, biologists monitor both harvests, and make changes to regulations when appropriate.

Turkey regulations are reviewed annually by both the Department's Regulations Committee and the Conservation Commission. Decisions are based upon both science and public input. The Department strives to ensure the well-being of the state's turkey population and to provide world-class turkey hunting.

Missouri's Wild Turkey Population Remains Strong

Missouri is recognized as offering some of the nation's best turkey hunting. Each year, the state's turkey harvest ranks among the highest in the country. The improved production of 2011 should result in an increase in the number of 2-year-old gobblers during the 2013 spring season. The hatch of 2012 should continue this trend into 2014. Missouri's turkey population remains strong, offering hunters a tremendous opportunity to enjoy one of the state's most cherished natural resources.

Turkey Hunting Regulations on Areas Managed or Owned by the Conservation Department

This table is intended to inform hunters of opportunities for hunting wild turkeys on public land managed or owned by the Conservation Department.

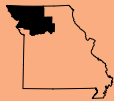
Turkey hunting is only allowed on Department areas that are listed in the table. If an area that is owned or managed by the Conservation Department is not listed, turkey hunting is not allowed. For hunting opportunities on public land that is not owned or managed by the Conservation Department, contact the appropriate agency.

For maps and more details of areas listed on the following pages, contact the regional office or go to the website listed on the inside front cover.

Regulation key for chart

1. Statewide turkey seasons and limits apply.
2. Only archery methods may be used. Turkey hunting with firearms is prohibited. All other statewide turkey seasons and limits apply.
3. Only nontoxic shot may be used.
4. Managed hunt. See pages 16–17 for details.

NORTHWEST



816-271-3100

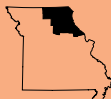
Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Agency	Buchanan	✓			
Aspinwall Bend	Atchison	✓			
Bagley Woods ¹	Mercer	✓			
Belcher Branch Lake	Buchanan	✓			
Bilby Ranch Lake	Nodaway	✓			
Bluffwoods	Buchanan	✓			
Bonanza	Caldwell	✓			
Brickyard Hill	Atchison	✓			
Brown (Bob)	Holt	✓		✓	
Bunch Hollow	Carroll	✓			
Chloe Lowry Marsh	Mercer	✓			
Christie	Andrew	✓			
Corning	Atchison, Holt	✓			
Crooked River	Ray	✓			
Dalton Bottoms Access	Chariton	✓			
Davis Memorial	Andrew	✓			
Denton Access	Gentry	✓			

¹This area is landlocked. You must get permission from landowner to gain access.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Deroin Bend	Atchison, Holt	✓			
Dupree Memorial	Buchanan	✓			
Elam Bend	Gentry	✓			
Elrod Mill Access	Andrew	✓			
Floyd Memorial	Chariton	✓			
Fountain Grove	Linn, Livingston	✓		✓	
Gallatin	Daviess	✓			
Grand Pass	Saline	✓		✓	
Grand Trace	Harrison	✓			
Hadorn Bridge Access	Andrew	✓			
Happy Holler Lake	Andrew	✓			
Hardin	Ray	✓			
Helton Memorial	Harrison	✓			
Holmes Bend Access	Daviess	✓			
Honey Creek	Andrew	✓			
Jamesport Community Lake	Daviess		✓		
King Lake	DeKalb, Gentry	✓			
Kneib Memorial	Buchanan	✓			
Lake Paho	Mercer	✓			
Little Compton Lake	Carroll	✓			
Little Tarkio Prairie	Holt	✓			
Logan Memorial	Buchanan	✓			
Lotts Creek	Harrison	✓			
Lower Hamburg Bend	Atchison	✓			
McClure	Mercer	✓			
McCormack	Holt	✓			
McGee Family	Clinton	✓			
McKinny	Carroll	✓			
Mockingbird Hill Access	Grundy	✓			
Monkey Mountain	Holt	✓			
Mussel Fork	Linn, Macon	✓			
Nishnabotna	Atchison	✓			
Nodaway County Community Lake	Nodaway	✓			
Nodaway Valley	Holt, Andrew	✓		✓	
Pawnee Prairie	Harrison	✓			
Pigeon Hill	Buchanan	✓			
Pony Express Lake	Dekalb	✓			
Poosey	Livingston	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Price Bridge Access	Chariton	✓			
Punkin Center Access	Livingston	✓			
Riverbreaks	Holt	✓			
Rush Bottoms	Holt	✓			
Schifferdecker Memorial	Carroll	✓			
Seat Memorial	Gentry, Worth	✓			
Sowards Ford Access	Worth	✓			
Star School Hill Prairie	Atchison	✓			
Sterling Price Community Lake	Chariton	✓			
Sunbridge Hills	Buchanan	✓			
Tarkio Prairie	Atchison	✓			
Thurnau	Holt	✓			
VanDyke	Mercer	✓			
Wagner	Ray	✓			
Wiese ²	Chariton	✓			
Wolf Creek Bend	Holt	✓			
Worth County Community Lake	Worth	✓			
Worthwine Island	Andrew	✓			
Yellow Creek	Chariton	✓			

NORTHEAST



660-785-2420

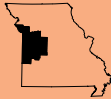
Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Anderson	Ralls, Pike	✓			
Arrow-Wood	Shelby	✓			
Atlanta—Long Branch Lake	Macon	✓			
Bee Hollow	Macon, Randolph	✓			
Big Creek	Adair	✓			
Black Hawk Access	Marion	✓			
Bollow	Shelby	✓			
Buck and Doe Run	Clark	✓			
Callahan Mound Access	Marion	✓			
Cedar Bluff Access	Monroe	✓			
Clark	Clark	✓			
Dark Hollow	Sullivan	✓			
Deer Ridge	Lewis	✓			
Dodd Access	Macon	✓			
Dunn Ford Access	Marion	✓			
Dupont Reservation	Pike	✓			

²Area is accessible by boat via Grand River or with permission from surrounding landowners.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Elmslie Memorial	Marion	✓			
Ewing Lake	Scotland	✓			
Fox Valley Lake	Clark	✓			
Frost Island	Clark	✓			
Griffiths Memorial	Macon	✓			
Heath Memorial	Clark	✓			
Henry Sever Lake	Knox	✓			
Hidden Hollow	Macon	✓			
Hunnewell Lake	Shelby	✓			
Indian Hills	Scotland	✓			
LaBelle Lake	Lewis	✓			
Locust Creek	Sullivan	✓			
McPike Access	Marion	✓			
Mineral Hills	Putnam	✓			
Montgomery Woods	Adair, Macon	✓			
Morris Prairie	Sullivan	✓			
Mound View Access	Shelby	✓			
Neeper	Clark	✓			
Pin Oak	Shelby	✓			
Ranacker	Pike	✓			
Ray Memorial	Marion		✓		
Rebel's Cove	Putnam, Schuyler	✓			
Redman	Macon	✓			
Rocky Hollow	Monroe	✓			
Rose Pond	Clark	✓			
Sears Community Lake	Sullivan	✓			
Shanks	Pike	✓		✓	
Shoemaker	Adair	✓			
Soulard Access	Marion	✓			
Sugar Creek	Adair	✓			
Sunnyside School Access	Lewis	✓			
Sunrise Access	Marion	✓			
Thomas Hill Reservoir	Macon	✓			
Tolona Access	Lewis	✓			
Union Ridge	Adair, Putnam, Sullivan	✓			
Upper Mississippi—Angle, Blackbird, Blackburn, Ducher, Gilbert, Mozier, North, Pharris and South Fritz islands	Pike	✓			
Upper Mississippi—Bay Island	Marion	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Upper Mississippi—Cottonwood Island	Lewis	✓			
Upper Mississippi—Fabius, Orton, Poage, Whitney, Ziegler islands	Marion	✓			
White Oak Bend Access	Knox	✓			
Willingham Memorial	Monroe	✓			
Woodlawn Access	Monroe	✓			
Wyaconda Crossing	Lewis	✓			

KANSAS CITY



816-622-0900

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Amarugia Highland	Cass	✓			
Balltown Access	Vernon	✓			
Baltimore Bend	Lafayette	✓			
Big Buffalo Creek	Benton, Morgan	✓			
Big Drywood Creek	Vernon	✓			
Birdsong	St. Clair	✓			
Blackjack Access	St. Clair	✓			
Brickley Hollow Access	Benton	✓			
Bridger Urban	Jackson		✓		
Bristow	Vernon	✓			
Brun's Tract	Pettis	✓			
Bryson's Hope	Pettis	✓			
Cephas Ford Access	Vernon	✓			
Chapel View Prairie	Henry	✓			
Cooley Lake	Clay	✓		✓	
Dave Rock	St. Clair	✓			
Dorsett Hill Prairie	Cass	✓			
Douglas Branch	Vernon	✓			
Drovers Prairie	Pettis		✓		
Edmonson Access	Benton	✓			
Ferguson-Herold	Lafayette	✓			
Fewel	Henry	✓			
Flight Lake	Vernon	✓			
Four Rivers	Vernon, Bates	✓		✓	
Friendly Prairie	Pettis		✓		
Gama Grass Prairie	Vernon	✓			
Grandfather Prairie	Pettis	✓			
Granny's Acres	Benton	✓			
Grove Memorial	Lafayette	✓			
Harmony Mission Lake	Bates	✓			
Hartwell	Pettis	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Hazel Hill Lake	Johnson	✓			
Hi Lonesome Prairie	Benton	✓			
Ionia Ridge	Benton	✓			
Kahrs-Boger Park	Pettis	✓			
J.N. "Turkey" Kearn Memorial Units 1,2	Pettis, Johnson	✓			
J.N. "Turkey" Kearn Memorial Unit 3	Pettis, Johnson	✓			
W.R. Kearn	Pettis	✓			
Kendzora	Buchanan, Platte	✓			
Kings Prairie Access	St. Clair	✓			
Ladue Bottoms	Henry	✓			
Liberty Bend	Clay	✓			
Linscomb	St. Clair	✓			
Little Bean Marsh	Platte	✓		✓	
Lone Jack Lake	Jackson	✓			
Lost Valley Fish Hatchery	Benton	✓			
Maple Leaf Lake	Lafayette	✓			
Marshall	Platte	✓			
Montrose	Henry	✓		✓	
Mora	Benton	✓			
Mount Hulda Towersite	Benton	✓			
Old Town Access	Bates	✓			
Osage Prairie	Vernon	✓			
Paint Brush Prairie	Pettis	✓			
Park, Guy B.	Platte	✓			
Parma Woods Range & Training Center—North of powerlines only	Platte	✓			
Peabody	Bates	✓			
Perry Memorial	Saline, Pettis, Johnson	✓			
Platte Falls	Platte	✓			
Poague	Henry	✓			
Ripgut Prairie	Bates	✓			
Schell-Osage	Vernon, St. Clair	✓		✓	
Settle's Ford	Bates, Cass	✓		✓	
Sni-A-Bar	Lafayette	✓			
Taberville Prairie	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Bethlehem	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Brownington	Henry	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Truman Reservoir—Brush Creek	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Cedar Creek	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Cross Timbers	Hickory	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Deepwater Creek	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Gallinipper Creek	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Gouge Eye	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Grand River Bottoms	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Leesville	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Little Pomme de Terre	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Little Tebo Creek	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Sac-Osage	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Salt Creek	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Tebo Islands	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Upper Tebo Creek	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Valhalia	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Weaubleau Creek	St. Clair	✓			
Urich	Henry	✓			
Wah-Kon-Tah Prairie—north of Highway 82	St. Clair	✓			

CENTRAL



573-815-7900

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Ben Branch Lake	Osage	✓			
Bennitt, Rudolf	Boone, Howard, Randolph	✓			
Blind Pony Lake	Saline	✓			
Blue Lick	Saline	✓			
Branch Towersite	Camden	✓			
Bruns Access	Osage	✓			
Burnt Mill Cave	Camden	✓			
Canaan	Gasconade	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Carpenter Memorial	Morgan	✓			
Clifty Creek	Maries	✓			
Cooper Hill	Osage	✓			
Danville	Montgomery	✓			
Danville—Baldwin Annex	Montgomery	✓			
Danville—Thornhill & Schulze Annex	Montgomery	✓			
Davisdale	Howard	✓			
Diana Bend	Howard	✓			
Diggs	Audrain	✓			
Eagle Bluffs	Boone	✓		✓	
Earthquake Hollow	Callaway	✓			
Fiery Fork	Camden	✓			
Franklin Island	Howard	✓			
Gale Access	Camden	✓			
Grand Bluffs	Montgomery	✓			
Hart Creek	Boone	✓			
Hite Prairie	Morgan	✓			
Honey Creek Access	Cole	✓			
Hungry Mother	Howard	✓			
Lamine River	Cooper, Morgan	✓			
Lick Creek	Boone	✓			
Little Dixie Lake	Callaway	✓			
Loutre Lick Access	Montgomery	✓			
Lowe	Audrain	✓			
Madden Ford Access	Miller	✓			
Manito Lake	Morgan, Moniteau	✓			
Mansfield	Camden	✓			
Marion Bottoms	Cole, Moniteau	✓			
Marshall Junction	Saline	✓			
Moniteau Creek	Howard	✓			
Moore's Mill Access	Callaway	✓			
Northcutt Memorial	Audrain	✓			
Painted Rock	Osage	✓			
Pikes Camp Access	Cole	✓			
Plowboy Bend	Moniteau	✓			
Prairie Home	Moniteau, Cooper	✓			
Proctor Towersite	Morgan	✓			
Reform	Callaway	✓			
Rinquelin Trail Community Lake	Maries	✓			
Rocky Fork Lakes	Boone	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Rocky Mount Towersite	Miller	✓			
Saline Valley	Miller	✓			
Scrivner Road	Cole	✓			
Smith	Moniteau, Cole	✓			
Smoky Waters	Osage, Cole	✓			
Spring Creek Gap	Maries	✓			
Stringtown Bridge Access	Cole	✓			
Tate Island	Callaway	✓			
Three Creeks	Boone	✓			
Toronto Springs	Camden	✓			
Tri-City Community Lake	Boone	✓			
Vandalia Community Lake	Audrain	✓			
Waters & Moss Memorial	Boone		✓		
Wellsville Lake	Montgomery	✓			
Whetstone Creek	Callaway	✓			
White	Audrain	✓			
Wigwam School Access	Morgan	✓			
Wilson Camp Access	Miller	✓			

ST. LOUIS



636-441-4554

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Anderson Memorial	Crawford	✓			
August A. Busch	St. Charles				✓
B.K. Leach Memorial	Lincoln	✓		✓	
Blue Springs Creek	Crawford	✓			
Bootleg Access	Washington	✓			
Catawissa	Franklin	✓			
Crooked Creek	Crawford	✓			
Cuivre Island— Island portion only	Lincoln, St. Charles	✓			
Cuivre Island— Mainland portion	Lincoln, St. Charles	✓			
Daniel Boone	Warren	✓			
Howell Island	St. Charles	✓			
Hughes Mountain	Washington	✓			
Huzzah	Crawford	✓			
Kessler Memorial	Lincoln	✓			
Keysville Towersite	Crawford	✓			
Kingston Access	Washington	✓			
LaBarque Creek	Jefferson	✓			

³ Hunting is not allowed in the wildlife refuge.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Little Indian Creek	Franklin, Washington	✓			
Little Lost Creek	Warren	✓			
Logan	Lincoln	✓			
Long Ridge	Franklin	✓			
Meramec—All area except Wildlife Refuge ³	Franklin	✓			
Merrill Horse Access	Jefferson	✓			
Myron and Sonya Glassberg Family	Jefferson	✓			
Pacific Palisades	Jefferson	✓			
Pea Ridge	Washington	✓			
Prairie Slough	Pike, Lincoln	✓			
Redhorse Access	Franklin	✓			
Reifsnider	Warren	✓			
River 'Round	Franklin	✓			
Sandy Island	Lincoln	✓			
Sizemore Memorial	Crawford	✓			
Upper Mississippi— Dresser Island	St. Charles	✓			
Upper Mississippi— Pool 26 Tracts	St. Charles	✓			
Upper Mississippi— Stag, Sterling, Westport islands	Lincoln	✓			
Valley View Glades	Jefferson	✓			
Victoria Glades	Jefferson	✓			
Vonaventure Memorial	Lincoln	✓			
Weldon Spring	St. Charles				✓
White Memorial	Lincoln	✓			
Young	Jefferson	✓			

SOUTHWEST



417-895-6880

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Barclay	Dallas	✓			
Bear Creek	Laclede	✓			
Bennett Spring Access	Dallas	✓			
Berry Bluff	Dallas	✓			
Bethel Prairie	Barton	✓			
Bluff Springs	Cedar	✓			
Bois D'Arc ⁴	Greene	✓			✓

⁴ Area is closed April 27–28 for managed hunt.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Boston Ferry	Taney		✓		
Brush Creek	Polk	✓			
Buffalo Hills	McDonald	✓			
Buffalo Wallow Prairie	Barton	✓			
Bushwhacker Lake	Barton, Vernon	✓			
Busiek	Christian	✓			
Capps Creek	Newton	✓			
Charity Access	Dallas	✓			
Clear Creek	Vernon, Barton	✓			
Coffin Cave	Laclede	✓			
Compton Hollow	Webster	✓			
Comstock Prairie	Barton	✓			
Cowskin Access	McDonald	✓			
Cross Timbers Access	Hickory	✓			
Dale Sare	Greene	✓			
Davis Memorial	Barton	✓			
Deep Ford Access	McDonald	✓			
Diamond Grove Prairie	Newton	✓			
Dorris Creek Prairie	Barton	✓			
Drury-Mincy	Taney	✓			
Drywood	Barton	✓			
Fiddlers Ford Access	Dade	✓			
Flag Spring	McDonald, Barry	✓			
Fort Crowder	Newton	✓			
Goodman Towersite	Newton	✓			
Goose Creek	Laclede	✓			
Hayes Spring	Stone	✓			
Holland	Stone	✓			
Hollister Towersite	Taney	✓			
Horse Creek Prairie	Dade	✓			
Huckleberry Ridge	McDonald	✓			
Indigo Prairie	Dade	✓			
Jessie Hollow	Stone	✓			
Kickapoo Prairie	Lawrence	✓			
Lanagan Towersite	McDonald	✓			
Lead Mine	Dallas	✓			
Little Sac Woods	Greene	✓			
Mary Lawson	Laclede	✓			
Monegaw Prairie	Cedar	✓			
Mo-No-I Prairie	Barton	✓			
Mon-Shon Prairie	Barton	✓			
Mule Shoe	Camden, Hickory	✓			
Murphy Memorial	Hickory	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Neosho Towersite	Newton	✓			
Niangua	Webster	✓			
Osage Fork	Laclede	✓			
Pa Sole Prairie	Barton	✓			
Paris Springs Access	Lawrence	✓			
Phenix Access	Greene	✓			
Pilot Knob	Stone	✓			
Pleasant Hope	Polk	✓			
Pomme de Terre Lake Management Lands	Hickory, Polk	✓			
Powell Towersite	McDonald	✓			
Providence Prairie	Lawrence	✓			
Rader Access	Webster	✓			
Redwing Prairie	Barton	✓			
Risch	Barton	✓			
Roaring River	Barry	✓			
Rocky Barrens	Greene	✓			
Sentinel	Polk	✓			
Shawnee Trail	Barton	✓			
Sky Prairie	Cedar	✓			
Sloan	Dade	✓			
Stockton Lake—Big Sac Unit	Dade, Polk	✓			
Stockton Lake—Little Sac Unit	Dade, Polk	✓			
Stony Point Prairie	Dade	✓			
Stubblefield Access	Barry	✓			
Talbot	Lawrence	✓			
Tipton Ford Access	Newton	✓			
Treaty Line Prairie	Barton	✓			
Turkey Creek	Cedar	✓			
Twenty-Five Mile Prairie	Polk	✓			
Wade and June Shelton Memorial	Dade	✓			
Williams Ford Access	Dallas	✓			
Wire Road	Stone	✓			
<div> <div>OZARK</div> <div>  </div> <div>417-256-7161</div> </div>					
Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Allen Memorial	Wright	✓			
Angeline	Shannon	✓			
Barn Hollow	Howell, Texas	✓			
Barnes	Texas	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Beaver Creek	Phelps	✓			
Birch Creek	Shannon	✓			
Bohigian	Phelps	✓			
Brown	Dent	✓			
Bull Shoals Lake	Ozark	✓			
Buzzard Bluff Access	Wright	✓			
Cabool Towersite	Texas	✓			
Caney Mountain— outside fenced area	Ozark	✓			
Caney Mountain— inside fenced area	Ozark				✓
Carter Creek	Carter	✓			
Cedar Gap	Wright	✓			
Cedar Grove	Dent	✓			
Clement Memorial Forest	Dent	✓			
Cover Memorial	Oregon	✓			
Cover Prairie	Howell	✓			
Davidson-Paris	Howell	✓			
Davis	Howell	✓			
Dixon Towersite	Pulaski	✓			
Eck	Texas	✓			
Fort Leonard Wood Towersite	Pulaski	✓			
Fourche Creek	Ripley	✓			
Fuson	Wright	✓			
Gasconade Hills	Pulaski	✓			
Gist Ranch	Texas	✓			
Grandin Towersite	Ripley	✓			
Hemenway	Ripley	✓			
Horseshoe Bend	Texas	✓			
Houston Towersite	Texas	✓			
Hunter Towersite	Carter	✓			
Hyer Woods	Dent	✓			
Indian Trail	Dent	✓			
Little Black	Ripley	✓			
Little Prairie	Phelps	✓			
Massengill	Douglas	✓			
Midvale	Texas	✓			
Montauk Towersite	Dent	✓			
Mountain View Towersite	Howell	✓			
Mudpuppy	Ripley	✓			
Norfork Lake	Ozark	✓			
Odin Access	Wright	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Patrick Bridge Access	Ozark	✓			
Peck Ranch—outside the fenced area	Shannon, Carter	✓			
Piney River Narrows	Texas	✓			
Rippee	Douglas	✓			
Rocky Creek	Shannon	✓			
Rosati Towersite	Phelps	✓			
Rose Hill Towersite	Oregon	✓			
Roubidoux Creek	Pulaski	✓			
Sand Pond	Ripley	✓			
Shannon Ranch	Douglas	✓			
Short Bend Access	Dent	✓			
Sunklands	Shannon	✓			
Tecumseh Towersite	Ozark	✓			
Thomasville Towersite	Shannon	✓			
Timber Knob Towersite	Ozark	✓			
Tingler Prairie	Howell	✓			
Twin Knobs Towersite	Douglas	✓			
Vanderhoef Memorial	Howell	✓			
Vera Cruz Access	Douglas	✓			
Warm Fork	Oregon	✓			
White State Forest Nursery	Texas	✓			
White Ranch	Howell	✓			
White River Trace	Dent	✓			
Woods Memorial	Phelps, Crawford	✓			

SOUTHEAST



573-290-5730

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Amidon Memorial	Bollinger	✓			
Apple Creek	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Aquilla Access	Stoddard	✓			
Big Cane	Butler	✓			
Bismarck	St. Francois,	✓			
Black Island— Stephen C. Bradford, Gayoso Bend, Desoto, Wolf Bayou units only	Pemiscot	✓		✓	
Buck Mountain ⁵	St. Francois	✓			
Buford Mountain	Iron, Washington	✓			
Cape LaCroix Bluffs	Scott	✓			

⁵ This area is landlocked. You must get permission from land-owner to gain access.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Cash Memorial	Dunklin	✓			
Castor River	Bollinger	✓			
Cedar Mountain ⁵	Iron	✓			
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	Dunklin		✓		
Champion Springs ⁵	Reynolds	✓			
Clearwater	Reynolds	✓			
Clearwater Lake	Reynolds	✓			
Clubb Creek	Bollinger	✓			
Coldwater Access	Wayne	✓			
Coldwater	Wayne	✓			
Coon Island	Butler	✓		✓	
Crowley's Ridge	Stoddard	✓			
Current River	Shannon, Reynolds, Carter	✓			
Donaldson Point	New Madrid	✓			
Duck Creek	Bollinger	✓		✓	
Duck Creek, Greenbrier Unit	Bollinger	✓		✓	
Duck Creek, Dark Cypress Swamp Unit	Bollinger	✓		✓	
Flatwoods	Wayne	✓			
Frisbee Cutoff Access	Dunklin	✓			
Funk Memorial	Iron	✓			
General Watkins	Scott	✓			
Gipsy Towersite	Bollinger	✓			
Girvin	New Madrid, Pemiscot	✓			
Grassy Towersite	Bollinger	✓			
Graves Mountain	Wayne, Iron	✓			
Hammer Memorial	Wayne	✓			
Hawn Access	Bollinger	✓			
Holly Ridge	Stoddard	✓			
Hornersville Swamp	Dunklin	✓			
Horton Farm	Ste. Genevieve	✓			
Iron Bridge Access	Wayne		✓		
Ketcherside Mountain	Iron, Reynolds	✓			
Knob Lick Towersite	St. Francois	✓			
Lake Girardeau	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Little Whitewater	Bollinger	✓			
Logan Creek	Shannon, Reynolds	✓			
Lon Sanders Canyon	Wayne		✓		
Mac and Zelma Carmichael State Forest ⁵	Butler	✓			
Magnolia Hollow	Ste. Genevieve	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Maintz Wildlife Preserve	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Marquand Access	Madison		✓		
Millstream Gardens	Madison	✓			
Oak Ridge	Stoddard	✓			
Old Plantation Access	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Poplar Bluff	Butler	✓			
Red Rock Landing	Perry	✓			
Riverside	Reynolds, Iron, Wayne	✓			
Sank	Bollinger	✓			
Seven Island	Mississippi	✓			
Seventy-Six	Perry	✓			
Sun	Butler	✓			
Sweetgum Access	Bollinger	✓			
Swift Ditch Access	New Madrid	✓			
Thompson Ford Access	Madison	✓			
Tywappity Towersite	Scott	✓			
University Forest	Wayne, Butler	✓			
Wappapello Reservoir	Wayne	✓			
Warbler Woods	Dunklin	✓			
Wilhelmina	Butler	✓			
Windy Bar Island	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Yokum School	Wayne	✓			

Managed Spring Turkey Hunts

Hunt No.	Area Name	County	Date	Quota	Odds ¹	How to Apply
Archery (1 hunt—longbow, recurve bow or compound bow only)						
1	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 15–21	30	64%	Online
Firearms (10 hunts—shotgun only)						
2	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	April 15–18	40	11%	Online
3	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	April 20–23	40	17%	Online
4	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	April 26–29	40	27%	Online
5	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	May 2–5	40	46%	Online
6	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 22–28	30	39%	Online
7	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 29–May 5	30	100% ⁶	Online
8	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	April 15–18	40	24%	Online
9	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	April 20–23	40	33%	Online
10	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	April 26–29	40	39%	Online
11	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	May 2–5	40	80%	Online
Youth-Only Firearms for Ages 11–15 (7 hunts—shotgun only) Note: Hunter-education certification is required, see box on Page 17.						
12	August A. Busch CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., April 4.	St. Charles	April 6–7	15	38%	Online
13	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 6–7	10	91%	Online
14	Smithville Lake COE ^{4,5} Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 9 a.m., April 13.	Clay/Clinton	May 4–5	10	75%	Online
15	Weldon Spring CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., April 4.	St. Charles	April 6–7	15	83%	Online
16	Current River SP ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., April 14.	Shannon	April 15–19	12	NA	Online
17	Current River SP ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., April 21.	Shannon	April 22–26	12	100% ⁶	Online
18	Burr Oak Woods CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 9 a.m., March 23.	Jackson	April 6–7	15	NA	Online
Special Hunts for People with Disabilities ⁷ (2 hunts—shotgun only)						
19	Bois D'Arc CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation; begins at 8:30 a.m., March 16.	Greene	April 27–28	12	100% ⁶	417-742-4361
20	Smithville Lake COE ^{4,5} Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 9 a.m., April 13.	Clay/Clinton	May 4–5	10	100% ⁶	Online

Key

CA = conservation area

COE = Army Corps of Engineers

SP = state park

¹ Odds of being selected are based on last year's drawings.

² Managed hunt occurs in a designated area; statewide regulations apply outside the designated area.

³ Hunters permanently confined to a wheelchair may bypass the random drawing but do not displace others in the drawing. Send

a request along with a statement from a licensed physician to: Managed Turkey Hunts, Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180. Requests must be received by Feb. 28.

⁴ Do not apply if you can't attend the pre-hunt orientation.

⁵ Youth and people with disabilities hunt concurrently.

⁶ Because odds are for the previous year 100 percent odds do not guarantee you will be drawn.

⁷ These hunts are for people permanently confined to a wheelchair.

Valid Permits: Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit,
Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit

Bag Limit: 1 male turkey or turkey with visible beard.

Note: A turkey taken at a managed hunt counts toward the two-bird season limit. For example, if you take a turkey during a managed hunt before April 22, you may not harvest another turkey during the first week of the regular season.

Hunter Quota: See chart on Page 16 for the number of hunters who will be drawn to participate in each hunt.

Odds: See chart on Page 16 for the success rate for last year's drawings.

How to Apply: See chart on Page 16 for method of application—either online or by phone.

When to Apply: Jan. 10–Feb. 28

Points to remember

- ▶ To participate in a youth-only managed hunt, you must be 11–15 years of age.
- ▶ To participate in a non-youth managed hunt, you must be at least age 11. You also must be hunter-education certified or exempt.
- ▶ If you cannot attend, another hunter cannot take your place. Only those hunters who applied and were drawn may attend.
- ▶ Some managed hunts require hunters to attend a mandatory pre-hunt orientation. If you cannot attend the orientation, do not apply.
- ▶ If you have a hunter-methods exemption, you may use a crossbow in an archery managed hunt.

Youth-Only Managed Hunts

The seven youth-only managed hunts are for youth ages 11–15. Apply online for the hunts. Unlike the regular hunt application, youth may apply only singly or with one other youth. Successful applicants will be notified by mail. Youths who apply for a youth-only hunt may not apply for any other managed hunt.

Hunter-education certification is required for all successful youth applicants. Minimum age to enroll in a hunter-education course is 11. Hunter-education certification is not required to apply for these youth-only managed hunts, but must be achieved before the pre-hunt orientation, or in the case of Caney Mountain, the actual hunt.

All youth hunters must have a parent/guardian/adult sponsor who will hunt with them. Department staff will attempt to find a mentor if the youth does not have one, but cannot guarantee a mentor for each youth hunter. The sponsor must attend the pre-hunt orientation if one is required. The sponsor must have hunter-education certification, unless the sponsor was born before Jan. 1, 1967.

Managed Turkey Hunt Application Worksheet

Hunt No.: _____

Method: _____

Location: _____

Date: _____

Hunter **Conservation I.D. number(s)** (nine-digit number on your hunting or fishing permit, or on the **back** of your Conservation Heritage Card below the bar code):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- ▶ Individuals not drawn for a managed spring turkey hunt may not accompany a hunter who was successfully drawn.
- ▶ ATVs are prohibited on managed spring turkey hunt areas.
- ▶ Hunters may apply for only one hunt. They may apply for that hunt individually or as a group of two or three hunters. Those applying for a youth-only hunt may apply only singly or with one other youth.

To apply, complete the following steps.

Step 1: Designate one member of your group to go online or, for Bois D'Arc, make a call. That person **must** have ready the following information:

- ▶ The two-digit number for the preferred hunt
- ▶ The nine-digit Conservation I.D. number of each hunter in the group. If you need an I.D. number, call 573-751-4115 during regular business hours to have one assigned. **Note:** A Social Security number is not the same as a Conservation I.D. number. Your Conservation I.D. number is located on your Conservation Heritage Card and on your permit.

Step 2: Complete the worksheet on this page **before** applying so you will have all the information ready.

Step 3: Go online at **mdc.mo.gov/hunt/turkey**. If you have correctly entered all the required information, you will receive a message confirming your application. **Note:** If you are applying for a hunt at Bois D'Arc, call the number listed on Page 16.

To find out if you've been selected

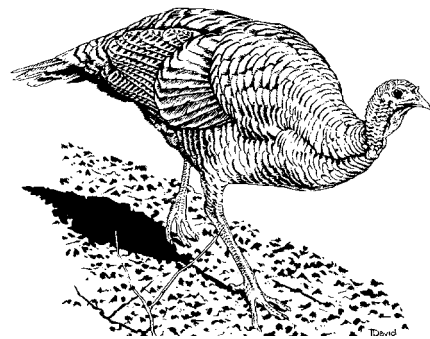
From March 15 through May 5, go online. Be prepared to enter your nine-digit Conservation I.D. number (the same I.D. number you used when you applied).

All successful applicants will receive by mail an area map and information regarding the hunt. We must have your correct address to send the information. If your address changes, call the Department during business hours at 573-751-4115.

How to Tell a Gobbler from a Hen

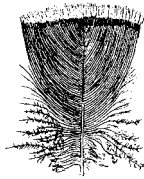
Gobblers are large birds with a black body and long beard. Hens sometimes have beards, but color, size, and behavior distinguish them from gobblers. Hens are smaller, brown birds with blue heads. Bearded hens produce young and help increase the turkey population. They should not be killed, but any turkey with a clearly visible beard is legal in Missouri. Hens without beards are illegal to shoot.

HEN



Breast
feathers
buff-tipped

Female

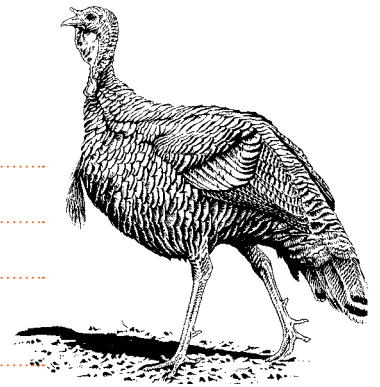


Male



Breast
feathers
black-tipped

GOBBLER

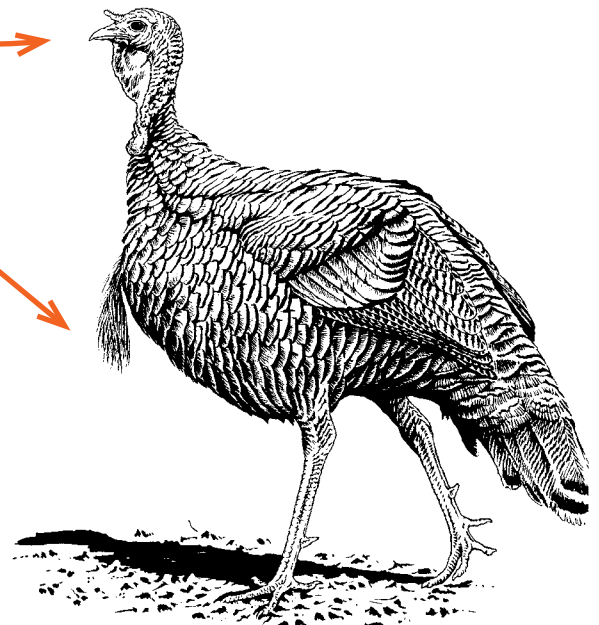


mainly blue	HEAD	mainly red
usually no beard	BEARD	long tassel-like
appears rusty	BREAST	appears black
no spurs	SPURS	usually 1/2 inch or more

JUVENILE GOBBLERS have spurs less than 1/2 inch long and a beard less than 6 inches long.

Basic Rules for Safe Turkey Hunting

- ▶ Identify a turkey's head and beard before aiming.
- ▶ Never shoot at sound or movement. Assume it is another hunter until you can clearly see a turkey's head and beard.
- ▶ Wear hunter orange when walking through the woods.
- ▶ Use hunter orange to identify your hunting location.
- ▶ Wrap a bagged turkey or decoy in hunter orange when transporting it.
- ▶ Dress defensively. Never wear red, white, blue, or black while turkey hunting.
- ▶ Know the effective range of your gun.
- ▶ Be sure of your target and what lies beyond.



Using e-Permits

The Conservation Department's e-Permits System lets you buy hunting permits online, print them at home, and have them in hand immediately. You can even reprint lost or damaged permits for free. If you're not comfortable buying online, you can still purchase permits by phone, at any MDC office, or from your usual vendor.

Learn more about e-Permits at mdc.mo.gov/epermits.

- ▶ E-permits were designed to be printed at home on regular paper. To prevent the paper from becoming unreadable, hunters are encouraged to keep e-Permits in a plastic sandwich bag while afield. This also will make it easier for hunters to write confirmation numbers on permits when Telechecking their turkeys.
- ▶ Turkey permits no longer include a removable transportation tag. Instead, the permit itself is the transportation tag.
- ▶ Each turkey permit has months printed along one edge and dates along another. Immediately after harvest, hunters must notch the month and day they shot their turkey, then attach the permit to the bird.



The Conservation Department's e-Permits System lets you buy your permit online, print it at home, and have it in hand immediately. This gives you more time to enjoy afield.

- ▶ E-Permits are not printed on adhesive-backed material, so hunters will need to provide a way to attach them to their turkey. Hunters are encouraged to put e-Permits inside plastic sandwich bags and attach the bags to their turkeys with string, twist-ties, wire, plastic cable ties, or tape.
- ▶ Turkey hunters must still check their turkeys by 10 p.m. on the day of harvest using Telecheck.

We Need Your Help!

Please participate in the Department's wild turkey brood survey.

The Conservation Department needs volunteers to participate in its wild turkey brood survey. Using cards provided, participants record observations of hens and poults throughout the summer. The information gathered is used to gauge the hatch of Missouri's wild turkey population.

It's easy to participate. Just send an email to paul.rogers@mdc.mo.gov. Write "Wild Turkey Brood Survey" in the subject line, and don't forget to include your name and mailing address. You can also send your name and address to: Wild Turkey Brood Survey, Missouri Department of Conservation, 3500 East Gans Road, Columbia, MO 65201. We'll send you three observation cards to record your turkey sightings on during June, July, and August. At the end of each month, just drop the postage-paid card in the mail, and we'll take care of the rest.

Tagging and Checking Procedures

*Using turkey hunting permits couldn't be easier.
Just remember: **Bag it. Notch it. Tag it. Check it.***

STEP 1

Bag it. Protect paper e-Permits in a plastic sandwich bag while afield.



STEP 3

Tag it. Attach your notched permit to the turkey's leg. We recommend sealing the permit in a plastic sandwich bag and attaching the bag to the turkey's leg with string, twist-ties, wire, or tape. You may now legally transport your turkey within Missouri.



STEP 2

Notch it. Immediately after bagging a turkey, notch the month and day of harvest on your permit.



STEP 4

Check it. Report your turkey by 10 p.m. on the day of harvest using the Telecheck instructions on Page 21. **Write the confirmation number** Telecheck provides on your permit. You may now process your turkey and transport it out of state.



Additional Tagging and Checking Information

- ▶ Until checked, turkeys must have the head and plumage intact.
- ▶ Notching voids the permit. Do not notch the month and day on your permit until you harvest a turkey.
- ▶ All turkeys must be checked before they are removed from Missouri.
- ▶ Only the person who harvested the turkey may possess and transport the turkey before checking.
- ▶ After checking, turkeys may be possessed and transported by anyone, but must be labeled with the taker's full name, address, and Telecheck confirmation number.

How to use Telecheck: Phone & Internet Checking

All turkeys must be checked by telephone or on the Internet. No in-person checking stations will be available.

If using a cellphone, be sure you have a clear signal. If the signal is spotty, move closer to a major highway, go to higher ground, or wait until you get to a land-based line to call. Avoid calling in areas with loud background noise.

You do not need to call Telecheck immediately after taking the turkey. You can transport unchecked turkeys within the state as long as the permit is voided and attached to the turkey's leg. You have until 10 p.m. on the day of harvest to check your turkey.

To use Telecheck, follow the steps below.

Step 1: Before calling the toll-free number or going online, find the Telecheck ID number on your permit. If you have more than one permit, be sure you give the number of the permit you want to use. Also get a pencil or pen so you will be able to write your Telecheck confirmation number on your permit.

Step 2: Fill out the orange form to the right, which contains the same information you will be asked when you use Telecheck.

Step 3: Use a phone to dial the toll-free number below, then follow the instructions in the phone interview. Speak clearly and slowly. You can call between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

**To check a turkey, call
1-800-314-6828.**

**Or, go to:
mdc.mo.gov**

Step 4: After you have provided the required information, you will be given an eight-digit confirmation number that verifies you have legally checked your turkey.
Write this number on your permit.

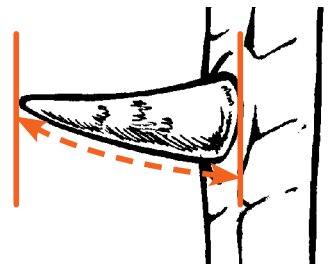
You have now completed Telecheck and can process your turkey.

Attention Cellphone Users

The most common reason hunters are unable to complete their Telecheck transaction is because of a poor cellular telephone connection. Signals that are weak, fade in and out, or clip speech will not work with the system. Once you've voided and attached your permit to your turkey, you have until 10 p.m. on the day of harvest to check the animal. Wait until you are out of the woods and receive a clear, strong cellphone connection before placing your Telecheck call.



How to Measure Spurs



Spur length measurements help biologists keep track of the age structure of the adult turkey population. Please accurately measure your turkey's spur before checking it. This will ensure biologists place your turkey in the correct age class. A difference in spur length of less than 1/8 of an inch can be important, so please take an accurate measurement. If you don't have a ruler, use the signature line of your permit, which is 2 inches long with a 1-inch mark in the middle.

Start at the outside center from the point where the spur protrudes from the leg scales, and measure to the tip of the spur.

▶ Your Telecheck ID number:

▶ Turkey type:

- ☐ Gobbler
- ☐ Juvenile gobbler (see Page 18 for how to identify a juvenile)
- ☐ Bearded hen
(see Page 18 for details on sexing a turkey)

▶ Spur length (gobblers only)

The signature line on your permit is 2 inches long (1-inch mark in the middle). Use it to measure the spur. See above for details.

- ☐ Less than 1 inch
- ☐ 1 inch or more

▶ Beard length

Your permit is 6 inches long and should be used to measure the beard.

- ☐ Less than 6 inches
- ☐ 6 inches or more

▶ County of harvest

Wildlife Code of Missouri—Turkey Hunting Regulations

3 CSR 10-7.455 Turkeys: Seasons, Methods, Limits

(1) Turkeys may be pursued, taken, killed, possessed, or transported only as permitted in this rule.

(A) Spring Season. Spring season annually will begin on the third Monday in April. A person possessing the prescribed turkey hunting permit may take turkeys according to the season length and bag limit established annually by the Conservation Commission. Turkeys may be taken only by shotgun, with shot no larger than No. 4, or bow; without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls, or live decoys; from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to 1:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time (CDT). Possession of electronic calls or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited while hunting turkeys.

(B) Fall Firearms Season. Fall season annually will be October 1 through October 31. A person possessing the prescribed turkey hunting permit may take two (2) turkeys of either sex during the season. Turkeys may be taken only by shotgun, with shot no larger than No. 4, or bow; without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls, or live decoys; from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset in all counties except: Dunklin, McDonald, Mississippi, New Madrid, Newton, Pemiscot, and Scott. Possession of electronic calls or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited while hunting turkeys. A person, while in the act of pursuing or hunting turkey on a fall firearms permit, shall not have both a firearm and bow on his/her person with the following exceptions (Firearms possessed under these exceptions may not be used to take wildlife while hunting with a bow. Proof of this exception must be carried while hunting.):

1. Any person who has been issued a concealed carry endorsement on a driver license or non-driver license and such endorsement or license has not been suspended, revoked, canceled, or denied may carry

concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting; and

2. Any qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer as defined in the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (18 USC 926B or 18 USC 926C) may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting.

(C) Fall Archery Season. A person possessing the prescribed archer's hunting permit may take two (2) turkeys of either sex from September 15 through January 15, excluding the dates of the November portion of the firearms deer season. Turkeys may be taken only by bows and atlatl; without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls, or live decoys; from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset. Possession of electronic calls is prohibited while hunting turkeys. An archer, while in the act of pursuing or hunting turkey on an archer's permit, shall not have a firearm on his/her person with the following exceptions (Firearms possessed under these exceptions may not be used to take wildlife while hunting with a bow. Proof of this exception must be carried while hunting.):

1. Any person who has been issued a concealed carry endorsement on a driver license or non-driver license and such endorsement or license has not been suspended, revoked, canceled, or denied may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting; and
2. Any qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer as defined in the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (18 USC 926B or 18 USC 926C) may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting.

(D) Youth Spring Season. The two (2)-day youth spring season will begin annually on the Saturday nine (9) days prior to the Monday opening of the spring season, except

Hunting Safety is No Accident

If you are involved in a firearms-related hunting incident, the law requires that you identify yourself and render assistance to the victim. Failure to do so is a Class A misdemeanor.

There were four nonfatal firearms-related hunting incidents during the 2012 spring turkey season. As you will see, simple carelessness and failure to positively identify game can result in injury. Don't make the same mistakes these hunters made.

April 16—Two brothers were stalking what they believed to be turkeys, but in reality they were stalking another hunter's

decoys. When the other hunter stood to identify himself, one of the brothers shot, injuring both the hunter and his son who was sitting nearby. The victims had hung a blaze-orange cap in the tree they were sitting against, but the shooter didn't see it because the sun was in his eyes.

April 20—A hunter was sitting near a blackberry thicket when he saw something move. Although he didn't hear gobbling or see a turkey, the hunter shot at the movement, hitting another hunter who was crossing through the blackberries.

that when the youth season would overlap with Easter weekend the season will open on the Saturday prior to Easter weekend. Any person possessing the prescribed turkey hunting permit and who is at least six (6) but not older than fifteen (15) years of age on the opening day of the youth spring season may take only one (1) male turkey or turkey with visible beard during the youth spring season. A turkey harvested during the youth spring season will count towards an individual's spring season bag limit; individuals hunting under the prescribed turkey hunting permit may not harvest a second bird during the first week of the spring season. Turkeys may be taken only by shotgun with shot no larger than No. 4, or bow; without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls, or live decoys; from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset. Possession of electronic calls or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited while hunting turkeys.

(2) Hunters who take a turkey shall void their permit immediately by notching the month and date of harvest. The voided permit shall be attached to the turkey. Turkeys may be possessed and transported only by the taker until reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System. All turkeys taken shall be accurately reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System by 10:00 p.m. on the day taken by the taker or in the taker's immediate presence. The Telecheck confirmation number shall be recorded immediately on the turkey hunting permit as indicated on the permit. The head and plumage of the turkey shall remain intact until the turkey is reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System. All turkeys shall be reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System prior to processing or being removed from the state.

(3) Bait shall mean grain or other feed placed or scattered so as to constitute an attraction or enticement to turkeys. An area shall be considered baited for ten (10) days following complete removal of the bait.

(4) A resident landowner or lessee as defined in 3 CSR 10-20.805, possessing a landowner turkey hunting permit, may take and possess turkeys in accordance with this rule on his/her land or, in the case of the lessee, on the land on which s/he resides and shall report the turkeys through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System as required in this rule.

(5) Any person who kills or injures any wild turkey shall make a reasonable effort to retrieve the turkey and include it in his/her season limit.

(6) Turkeys (or parts thereof) reported in accordance with established procedures, when labeled with the full name, address, and confirmation number of the taker, may be possessed, transported, given away, and stored by anyone.

(7) In accordance with section 270.400, RSMo, feral hogs (any hog, including Russian and European wild boar, that is not conspicuously identified by ear tags or other forms of identification and is roaming freely upon public or private lands without the landowner's permission) may be taken in any number during the spring firearms turkey season and youth spring season only by the holder of a valid, unused turkey hunting permit; and only by methods and times prescribed for taking turkeys. During the fall firearms turkey season, feral hogs may be taken only by the holder of a valid, unused turkey hunting permit or a small game hunting permit; and only by methods prescribed in Chapter 7 for taking wildlife, and without the use of bait. Other restrictions may apply on public lands. Resident landowners or lessees as defined in this Code may take feral hogs on their own property at any time, by any method, and without permit.

April 29—A hunter was calling to a turkey, trying to coax the gobbler into shooting range. Unknown to him, another hunter was creeping toward the sound of the gobbling. When the turkey finally moved into position, the first hunter shot, hitting the other hunter in the neck and left eye.

April 29—A hunter saw a jake run across the road in front of him. Then he saw something black moving in the woods and assumed it was an adult gobbler following the jake. When the hunter saw what he thought was a gobbler's beard, he shot, shooting another hunter in the face. The victim was the hunter's friend, coming to meet him.



A person wearing a camouflage hat and face paint is aiming a rifle in a forest. Another person in camouflage is visible in the background.

ENJOY MORE TIME HERE

Ever have a lost or forgotten permit spoil your hunting plans? Not anymore. The Conservation Department's e-Permits System lets you buy online, print your permit at home, and have it in hand immediately. You can even reprint the permit if you lose or damage it.

Find out how to use and enjoy e-Permits at mdc.mo.gov/epermits
Then head to your favorite hunting spot!

Not comfortable with online purchases? You can still buy your fishing, hunting, and trapping permits by phone, at any MDC office, or from your usual vendor.

